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April 8, 1941

Coach William S. Fradis
3766 Bedford Avenue
Brooklyn, New York

Dear Coach Fradis:

I have just received your airmail special regarding painting the soles of basketball players' shoes when they are to play on a slick floor.

The substance I used was liquid belt dressing. The old belt dressing, which is used to keep the belts from slipping off the rollers, was a non-liquid substance and had to be heated before it could be applied to the soles of the shoes. However, the newer dressing is a liquid and may be applied with a brush.

This dressing is dark brown in color and will mark up the floor terribly bad, and they may want to shoot you for using it. However, it does the job and will aid your players in keeping contact with the floor.

Later you will have to use benzene gasoline to take the dressing off the soles of the shoes, which is quite a job, but it is worth it, especially when the boys are taking a chance on cracking their elbows on a slick floor.

I trust this information will reach you in time, and I hope you are successful in the tournament.

Sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education and Recreation
Varsity Basketball and Baseball Coach

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